



# Timberbank Times

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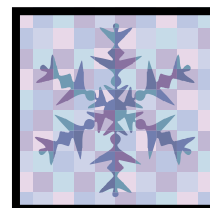
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## Principal's Message

Happy New Year Timberbank Parents/Guardians,

We hope that your holiday was a wonderful one. It is certainly a time to enjoy family and friends. We would like to wish you all good health, happiness, peace and prosperity for 2011.



The year ended in fine fashion as we celebrated together at our Holiday Concert on December 16th. What a great performance it was! Thank you for attending and for your contributions to our annual raffle. Our School Council appreciated the many items that were donated to make it such a success. Also, a special thanks to all from Agincourt Community Services for the wonderful food donations that were brought in to help our needy families.

The incredible Timberbank band dazzled us both at the Markham Theatre and at our Holiday Concert. They are an extremely talented group of students who dedicate a great deal of time to perfect their sound. We are very proud of their accomplishments!

We also continue to look forward to teaching and learning with your children. Our staff are working hard to create opportunities to improve student skills in numeracy and literacy. Along with this, there are many extra-curricular activities available for our students. Folkdancing begins for grade 2 to 6 students on Mondays at lunch while primary and junior house-league games continue every Tuesday and Thursday at lunch.

It is clear that Timberbank is a great school where students are given a chance to excel in many areas. Here's to a great 2011!

*Mrs. Anna Epitropou*



## Upcoming Dates

Jan 11	Officer Heather Hope visits grade 3 to 6 students
Jan 13/14	Inner City Angels Artist visits Kindergarten
Jan 18	Agility Challenge in Gym for all students
Jan 21	PA Day (No School for students)
Jan 24	Prologue Presentation (am) - Creole Drummatix
Jan 26	Info Night for Early French Immersion @ Beverly Glen PS (416-396-6055) - 7pm
Jan 28	Favourite Hat Day
Jan 31	Pizza Lunch
Feb 2	"On TRACK" Assembly (pm) / Lunar New Year Assembly
Feb 3	"On TRACK" treat with Mrs. Epitropou @ lunch
Feb 3	Lunar New Year / School Council Meeting at 6:30 pm in the Library
Feb 4	Grade 7 Extended French & SK French Immersion applications due

## **French News**

It is that time of year when applications are due for the various French programs offered by the Toronto District School Board.

For Grade 6 students wishing to attend Grade 7 Extended French, applications are due to the office by Friday, February 4th. The application form will be sent home with each Grade 6 student along with the newsletter.

For JK students wishing to attend an Early French Immersion program for senior kindergarten, applications are also due to the office on Friday, February 4th. This form will also be sent home with the newsletter. There is an information evening happening on January 26th at Beverly Glen Jr. PS at 7pm for those interested in learning more about French Immersion.

*Merci*

## **ATHLETICS:**

### **Boys' Basketball**

Our boys' basketball team has been selected and practices have started for the winter athletic season. The boys are very excited about this new team at Timberbank and we wish them good luck!



Thanks to Ms Keith and Mrs. Walker who will be coaching the team.

### **Girls' Volleyball**

Once again, Timberbank will have a girls' volleyball team. Mr. O'Connor and Ms Kwok will be coaching the team and tryouts and practices will be starting soon.



Good Luck Girls!

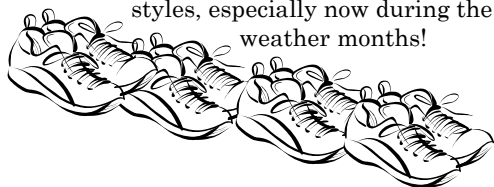
### **Primary and Junior Houseleague @ Lunch**

Our houseleague extra-curricular program continues throughout the year. Our students are encouraged to participate in order to build their athletic skills along with our mission "Timberbank is Teamwork".

All students have been placed into their four mascot houses: Moose; Bears; Cougars and Hawks. The lists are posted outside the library on our bulletin board.

Primary games take place on Tuesdays and Junior Games take place on Thursdays. All students are welcome to stay for lunch on their houseleague day.

What a great way to promote fitness and active life styles, especially now during the cold weather months!



## **Kindergarten News**

Full-Day Kindergarten is coming to Timberbank Jr. PS for September 2011. Our kindergarten registration day is Wednesday, February 23rd, 2011.

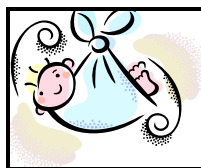


Please take a look at page 6 of our newsletter for more details and pass this information along to parents in our community who have children who will be 4 years old (born in 2007) by the end of this year.

## **Roots of Empathy**

Our two grade 1/2 classes are participating in the Roots of Empathy program this year. ROE teaches students about feelings, their own feelings and the feelings of others. A certified instructor visits each week along with a parent and baby from the community.

During these visits, students sit around a green blanket on the floor to watch the baby. The Instructor guides the students in noticing how the baby is growing and changing each month. Students also learn how the baby tells the parent what he or she wants, how the parent learns what the baby is feeling and what the baby needs.



We have been lucky to have baby Annabelle and her mother visit us each week. Our students are really enjoying Roots of Empathy.



## **Staying "ON T.R.A.C.K."**

Our next "On T.R.A.C.K" assembly is in the afternoon at 1pm on Wednesday, February 2nd, 2011.

Through our daily announcements and the special work happening in our classrooms, the two traits we are focusing on during the months of December and January are **ATTITUDE** and **ACHIEVEMENT**. We hope that our students recognize the importance of staying "On TRACK" every day!

### **Quotes to think about:**

"I will not quit as a learner no matter how hard it gets."  
(Epicurus)

"Rome was not built in a day. Obstacles don't have to stop you. If you run into a wall, don't turn around and give up. Figure out how to climb it, go through it, or work around it."  
(Michael Jordan)

## **Lunar New Year**

This year we will be combining our "On T.R.A.C.K." assembly with our Lunar Year celebrations. All are welcome to attend. Our assembly will begin at 12:45 pm in our gym.





## *Timberbank Has Crazy Hair Spirit!*



## *Lounging in our PJs*



## *Holiday Concert Memories!*



### Gentle Reminders:

- **Parents/Caregivers/Visitors/Volunteers:** Please begin your visit at the main office before proceeding to any classroom. If you are volunteering you will be asked to sign in. Please also note that washrooms are for students only. Staff washrooms are available for adult use along with a male and female washroom in the main foyer. If you think a student requires assistance, please contact the main office, please do not enter the student washroom.
- When your child is absent or late, please give us a call to let us know at 416-396-6860. For your convenience, the ***Safe Arrival voice mailbox is available 24 hours each day.*** All students arriving late or leaving early should sign in and/or out at the main office with a parent or designated caregiver. We appreciate your help in this matter.

***Reminder!***



## **Cold Weather Dressing**

The cold weather has definitely arrived. Please ensure that your child leaves for school each day with a hat or hood and mittens or gloves. Even if it is not cold enough when they leave for school, these items can be carried in their coat pocket or their backpack so that they are available if needed throughout the day. Along with this, we hope that you can assist us by labeling all children's clothing so that there is no confusion or items in our lost and found can be returned to their rightful owners. We do appreciate your assistance with this.



## **Severe Weather Guidelines**

Children need an opportunity to get exercise and free play time outdoors. However, weather conditions sometimes warrant that indoor recesses, lunch periods and pre-entry periods be considered necessary for student and staff safety. The TDSB has direct guidelines around severe weather and conditions warranting indoor recesses. Since weather conditions change during the day, we regularly consult Environment Canada's website at [www.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca](http://www.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca) for the latest forecast.

Please refer to page 7 and 8 of our newsletter for information about "Severe Weather-Working with Your School for Student Safety". Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

## **Flu Season and Handwashing**

When done correctly, handwashing is the single most effective way to prevent the spread of infectious diseases. Please take a moment to review the following simple steps with your child.



1. Wet your hands with warm running water
2. Add soap, and rub your hands together, making a soapy lather. Do this for at least 15 seconds. Wash the front and back of your hands, as well as between your fingers and under your nails.
3. Rinse your hands well under warm running water. Let the water run back into the sink, not down your elbows. Turn off the water with a paper towel and place it in the garbage.
4. Dry hands thoroughly with a clean towel.

Let's all do what we can to beat the FLU!



## **INTERNET SAFETY**

The everchanging world of technology can be challenging for many of our parents. Being informed is very important!

### **Tips for parents:**

1. Position the computer in an area where there is high traffic and you can see what your child is doing
2. Ensure your child accept you as a "Friend" to his/her Social Media networks e.g. Facebook; it allows you to monitor who and what they are talking about
3. Set personal family guidelines for using the computer e.g., don't tell anyone online your real name (unless you know them and can verify it); don't tell anyone where you live or where you go to school; agree to tell an adult you trust if you feel uncomfortable about what someone is typing or showing you online

**Helpful Websites to Visit:** [www.cybertip.ca](http://www.cybertip.ca);  
[www.thedoorthatsnotlocked.ca](http://www.thedoorthatsnotlocked.ca); [www.texted.ca](http://www.texted.ca);  
[www.cyberbullyalert.com](http://www.cyberbullyalert.com); [www.staysafeonline.org](http://www.staysafeonline.org)



## **SAFETY after hours**

**Please take a moment to report to our TDSB Call Centre any incidents or concerns that you may see on our school property.**

**TDSB 24 hour Hot Line and Security can be reached @ 416-395-4620.**

**Thanks for your assistance and helping to keep our community safe!**